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SUNDRY CONSIDERATIONS TOUCHING Naturalization of Aliens:

WHEREBY

The alledged Advantages thereby are confuted, and the contrary Mischiefs thereof are detected and discovered.

THERE being much Discourse about Naturalizing Foreigners, and great Conveniences and Inconveniences being suggested pro & con, as to the Consequences thereof in respect to Trade, I beg leave, having my self an Interest in the Trade of this Nation, that I may deliver the Sense of a worthy Patriot, (Sir Matthew Hales late Lord Chief Justice of England) who in

a Manuſcript, accidentally falling into my hands, affirms, and from the following Arguments proves, the Naturalization of Foreigners never to have been the judgment of honeſt, thinking, but only the opinion of unthinking, notional, or deſigning Men, and the inconveniences that follow hereupon never to be remedied. It is a Subject that very nearly concerns the Good of this Kingdom, the Engliſh *having been always tenacious of their Liberty, and Jealous of being wrong'd in their Trade by Foreigners, as is apparent by the many commotions formerly on that account, eſpecially the* Ill May-Day *in the* 9th. *Year of King* Henry *the Eighth* (1657.) *of which our Hiſtorians take eſpecial notice: If it was thus, when Trade was in its Infancy, it may poſſibly be much more ſo, now the Trade of* Europe *is chiefly in our hands.*

And at this preſent time the countenancing of a Foreign Trade, (tho' in a Siſter Nation) to the prejudice of our own Merchants appears to be of ſuch high and National concern, that both Houſes of Parliament (thoſe great Aſſertors of our Engliſh *Liberties) have taken notice of it.*

But to wave further prefacing, I come directly to the ſubject Matter, and obſerve.

I. THAT there is no preſent neceſſity of any ſuch thing: not from abroad, for we are not under the fear or power of Foreign Princes that might impoſe it upon us. Nor from within, for tho' we have many Foreigners among us, yet they are not able ſo far to give us the Law, as by a bold importunity to command it: The Natives of this Kingdom very much exceed them in ſtrength and number, neither do the Natives of this Kingdom, except ſome few ſpeculative and notional men, deſire, much leſs demand it; ſo that we who have above five hundred years continued under diſtinct Policy from other Nations, and have enjoyed the Priviledge of our own Kingdom, without communication thereof promiſcuouſly and generally to Aliens may continue ſo ſtill without the neceſſity of Naturalization of Aliens; and for ought I know, with as much happineſs, and wealth, and honour, as our Anceſtors have done before

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before us. And altho' it is true, that while the Kings of *England* had their Hereditary Territories in *France*, the *French* of those Territories were in effect by the Union Naturalized as *Pistnati* in *Scotland* are with us at this day, yet that is nothing to the business in hand, namely an universal Naturalization; so that there seems nothing of necessity in the case, only if there be any thing of reason for it, it must be the business of convenience, and that in relation to Trade.

II. Therefore the conveniences of Naturalization of Aliens must be considered, and this certainly must be in relation to Trade: And herein will be these Considerations following. Namely; First, What kind of Naturalization that must be which must most advance Trade. Secondly, What kind of advance of Trade will arise by such Naturalization.

Touching the former of these; certainly the general reason of the advance of Trade by Naturalizing Aliens must be, because it will be a means to invite Foreigners to come hither, to bring their Stocks, their Wealth, their Trading, their Manufactures hither, where they may find as great, if not greater advantage, than they have in other, or their own, Countries.

The consequence whereof must needs be, that the more ample and extensive their Priviledge is, the greater the advance of Trade will thereby be; because the Invitation is the greater, and on the other side the more narrow, contracted, and restrictive, the Naturalization is, the less it will conduce to the advance of Trade.

The Naturalization therefore must be Universal. First, In respect of extent, it must extend to all Persons of all Nations, of all Religions, Protestants, Papists. Jews, Mahometans, Turks, Moors, Pagans, for otherwise it answers not the Latitude of the Design, if Trade be the Saint that is adored only, other Considerations must be laid aside, or else the Latitude of the Design is narrowed. Secondly, In respect of Intention or the Nature of the Priviledge, it must be to all Intents and Purposes, there must be no discrimination in Customs nor in Hereditary Successions, nor in any other Priviledges belonging to natural born Subjects.

Touching the later, the advance of Trade hereby will be thus, *England* is most certainly in the most advantageous place of the World, to be the Mistress of Trade, both in reference to *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*, the *Eastern*, *Western*, *Northern*, and *Southern* World,

It hath the beſt Ports and Harbours for Shipping of any place in the World, and not only the beſt, but the moſt numerous, as well as moſt uſeful. It hath the moſt advantageous Rivers, for the tranſporting into the Body of the Kingdom, and educing out of it all manner of Commodities, as *Thames*, *Severn*, *Humber*, *Tyne*, and by divers others, and by new Cuts and Sluices there might without much difficulty in compariſon of the Profit, for the communication between the Ports themſelves, and the Ports and Inland Towns. Again, it hath Timber for Shipping, is not far diſtant from the *Baltick* Sea, for its ſupply of Maſts and Cordage, hath Iron, Tin, Lead, Leather, Wooll, Cloth, *&c.* for the maintenance of Trade, is excellently fitted with fiſhing for the increaſe of Mariners, hath all ſorts of Victuals for the Victualling of Ships, and in Sum is ſupplied with all conveniences and accommodations to make it the common Port almoſt of the whole World. And beſides all this, though it be very populous for a Continent, it is nothing in compariſon of what it might be as an Iſland or Common Port; there is room enough for the reception of Millions of People in thoſe vaſt unpeopled Plains and Coaſts almoſt in all Countries, the *Netherlands* that are not much larger than *Yorkſhire*, yet in reſpect of their Trade are infinitely more populous than the moſt populous part of *England*, except *London*, *Briſtol*, *Exeter* and *Newcaſtle*, and ſome other Port-Towns.

And therefore were the Country free for all Nations to come into, with the ſame advantage as in their own, certainly all theſe advantages, beſides the pleaſantneſs and temperateneſs of the Country would invite infinite numbers of Foreigners, eſpecially the Trading and Manufacturing part of them to come and ſettle here; and the Conſequences hereof to the Trade and Wealth of the Kingdom would be ſuch as theſe.

1ſt. It would preſently advance the Price and Rents of Land by the increaſe of the Wealth, the Trade, and the Inhabitants of the Kingdom.

2dly. It would draw over the Trading Merchants and their Stocks hither, which would in a moment advance the Wealth of the Kingdom.

3dly. It would bring over the Artificers of all Foreign Countries hither, and the rather conſidering that here would be the great Magazine of Commerce, and alſo a ſufficient ſtore of Materials for their Employment, which either are here native, or would be ſpeedily acquired, as Iron, Steel, Tin, Lead, Wooll, Hemp, Flax. *4thly,*

4*thly*. And by this means the Natives of this Kingdom would be inſtructed in all kind of Manufactures, and which is yet a greater advantage the idle Poor of this Kingdom which is at preſent the burthen, and will be in time the deſtruction of the Kingdom, will become the Wealth of the Kingdom being habituated, and as it were fermented by the induſtry of Foreigners, who at this time, and almoſt in all ages have been more happy in Manufacture than the *Engliſh* who have moſt of their curious Manufactures from the *Dutch* and *French*.

5*thly*. And by this means *England* will be the *commune & nobile Emporium* of the World, their Shipping, Marriners and Trade, and conſequently their Wealth, Power, and Strength immenſly increaſed, for experience and reaſon tell us, that whatſoever place is the Seat of Trade, that place muſt abound with Wealth, Shipping and Marriners, as is ſeen at this day, eſpecially in *Holland* and *Venice*, for by theſe means the Merchandize of all parts of the World, will in effect become the Native Commodities of this Kingdom, the ſame being become the common Receptacle and Store-Houſe thereof for Exportation into all Places of the World.

And theſe be many of the moſt conſiderable Reaſons that ſeem to evince the convenience of this Expedient, and indeed carry a ſpecious Pretext for it.

But for all this I do think that neither the event will anſwer the expectation, and if it did yet the inconveniences that accompany this thing will be too great.

Firſt, Therefore this Expedient ſeems utterly incompetent for the Ends propounded, namely, the Increaſe of the Wealth and Trade of this Kingdom, and for the Evidence thereof, I ſhall not uſe Notions and Suppoſitions, but appeal to experience and obſervation, which in a matter of this nature proves more effectually than conjectural Notions and Imaginations, and I ſhall uſe but theſe two Inſtances.

Firſt, If this were a means to increaſe the Trade, and conſequently the Wealth of this Kingdom, it would have been the means thereof in ſome former Ages, and if it had been ſo, ſurely they had had as much reaſon, both in reſpect of their Wiſdom, and Prudence, and Intereſt, to have ſeen it and allowed it in former Times; but in all the Tracts of former Times, this was never ſo eſteemed or found, and therefore we have as much reaſon to believe that it would not ſo prove now.

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And that former Times never esteemed or found this Expedient useful for the increase of the Wealth and Trade of this Nation, is evident in this, that they ever most strictly kept up the discriminations betwixt Natives and Aliens. First, The Exclusion of them from the privilege of purchasing Lands in *England*, hath always made their Purchases forfeit to the Crown, and their Issue disabled from Hereditary Succession, which in the time of *Henry* the VIII. was extended also to the purchasing of Houses.

2*dly*, The Aliens always even from the first Settlement of the great Customs in *Edward* the I. his time, as in all Acts of Parliament for Subsidies since, have been charged with an increase of Customs above the Native.

3*dly*, Great care was ever used in Naturalizations by Act of Parliament, which were rarely granted and upon special Reasons.

It is true, that in all times some particular encouragement were given to Foreigners to bring in their Arts here, as to the Weavers in the time of *Henry* the II. and also to Merchants to bring in their Goods and sell them here, as by the Statute of the 9*th*. of *Edward* the III. for selling by retail in *London*, and other Cities, and particularly to the *Hanse* Merchants, and the Merchants of the *Stile Yard* by King *Henry* the III. by King *Edward* the I. in his *Charta Mercatoria*, by King *Edward* the IV. in enlarging the Priviledges of the Merchants of the *Stile-Yard*, but still they maintained and kept up the Discrimination between *English* and Foreigners, as to the point of Naturalization and disparity of Customs in general.

2*dly*, In all Ages Merchants in amity had, and to this day have as great liberty in point of Trade and Commerce in this Kingdom, except as to the Purchasing of Lands, and equality of Customs, as the universal Naturalization of them would give, our Ports are equally open to them (except the late Act for encouraging Navigation) as they would be if Naturalized, and the convenience of our Ports are as much now as they would be then. So that if the point of Commerce and convenience of our Ports are as much now as they would be then, it is not credible that the giving them priviledge of purchasing Lands, which is collateral to Trade, and the little disproportion of their Customs would so abundantly increase the Trade of the Kingdom as to matter of Commerce, the supposed grand advantage, over what it now doth.

2*dly*,

2*dly*, But touching the second considerable, I say, that altho' some possible advantage might grow to our Trade by such an extensive Priviledge, yet the inconveniences that would thereby arise to the Safety, Satisfaction, Preservation and Wealth of this Kingdom, would excessively surmount that imaginary advantage, as will evidently appear by these ensuing Considerations.

1*st*. It would in a little time surcharge the Kingdom with Aliens, and either drive out, streighten, consume, or quite blot out the *English* Nation. If the Wealth they bring with them were small and inconsiderable, they would be our Burthen, if great, they would be our Canker to eat the Natives out of their Possessions, and by degrees, transfer our Possessions to Strangers; and so while by Naturalizing them, we should demonstrate a great Zeal to the increase of Trade, we should at the same time discover a great neglect, and indeed betraying of our Country and Countrymen, exterminating them, that we might increase Trade for Strangers.

2*dly*, It would presently give an universal disgust to the whole Kingdom, who would reasonably think that we sold them to purchase Trade, and let any man look upon the examples of former times, especially in the times of *Edward* the II. and some others; no one thing gave a deeper and more general discontent than the filling of the Kingdom with Aliens, what the inconveniences of such a general distaste would be, is not difficult to judge.

3*dly*, What if Wars should arise between this Kingdom, and those Kingdoms from which the great resort of Aliens should come, can any man reasonably think that they would not have respect to their Native Countries, where possibly many of their Relations, and Possessions, and a great part at least of their Wealth should lodge, or can we think they should wholly be dismist of their Allegiance and Subjection to their Native Princes and Governors, if not, then we have so many Enemies Incorporated to us, who may quickly joyn with Native Countrymen, and ruin our Peace and Kingdom, betray all our Counsels, or at least keep us in that awe and fear, that we must not break with those Countries upon any Terms, but keep a servile and base Peace with them upon their own Terms, or engage, in a War with them to our extreamest danger and disadvantage. Neither will the Objection of the Parity of our Condition any way help us, for as the Advantage of the *English* Country, and the convenience of Trade here, would most certainly draw over many

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Aliens hither, especially out of the populous places of *France* and the *Netherlands*, so the inconveniences of their Countries in comparison of ours, would send but few *English* among them, in comparison of their numbers here; so we should pour in by this means *France* and *Germany* into *England*, to the streightning and undoing of the Native *English*, but without reciprocal disburdening of ours there, till necessity or the want of room or trade in *England*, force the *English* to that miserable exchange.

4*thly*. It is but a fond dream to think that at least the first generation of naturalized Aliens would thereupon transfer all their Estates hither, there are infinite reasons why they should not. *First*, War may arise between this Kingdom and the Country from whence they came, and the jealousie of that will make them secure, at least, the most considerable parts of their Estates in their own Countries. 2*dly*. In all probability they will have some estates which must abide there; Debts due to them, and not gotten in, Houses, Possessions. 3*dly*. At least, they will have many of their Relations, as their Fathers, Mothers, Children, Brothers, Kindred which will still keep them upon a dependance upon that Countrey, notwithstanding their Transportation. 4*thly*. Again, here they will find Animosities and Heart-burnings by the Native *English* against them; upon all which accounts and many more, we may be well assured that most of them will not venture all in one bottom, but will keep a considerable part of their Estates and Trade and Relations in the Countries from whence they came: and he is blind that sees not what the consequence of that will be, namely, that they will drain the wealth of *England* into their own Hands and Purses, which they will easily transmit to their own Countries; that they will make our Countrey the Instrument to enrich themselves, and their own Countrey without enriching us; that they will trade from hence into their own Country and Plantations upon better, easier, and safer Terms then the *English* shall, whereby they will be able to undersel and undermine the *English* Traders, who shall thereby be undone, and not know who hurt them. 5*thly*. We are mistaken if we think that our *English* will be better instructed by them, it is true, if a few come over, necessity will put them upon employing the *English* under them, as is done in *Colchester*, and some other places at this day; but if many come over they will keep the Trade and Manufacture among themselves, for tho' some of us *English* have so little judgment and good nature as to deliver over our own Country to Aliens,

ens, yet when they come hither we ſhall find them more diſcreet, politick, and better natured to their Countrymen

6thly. Neither will our Manufactures be better but worſe. We have Laws that Traders in ſome things muſt have ſerved their Apprenticeſhips; but if Aliens come over, muſt they be bound Apprentice before they trade? If ſo, we ſhall have but few of the Artificers come unto us: But if not? Then any Alien may work at any Trade without Controul, the Law for Apprentices muſt be repealed as to them, and they may work as they pleaſe.

And of the ſame Conſideration will be the priviledges of our great *Engliſh* Cities, *London, York, Briſtol, &c.* Where none but a Freeman may by Cuſtom exerciſe their Trades. Shall all theſe priviledges be reſumed as to Aliens? If ſo, the Aliens are put into better Condition than the reſt of *Engliſhmen* that are not free of the Cities; and beſides, it is very obvious to ſee what Combuſtions may follow, upon ſuch Invaſions of Liberties of great Cities: but if they ſhall not exerciſe their manual Trades, there the Aliens are diſappointed of what they moſt expected: Namely, trading in theſe places where the greateſt benefit is to be expected; and will not thank us for our Indulgence. And tho theſe two laſt Articles concern Manufactures, and not foreign Merchandize, yet the Conſequence and Extent thereof is large, the Artificers of the Kingdom are a numerous Company, and thoſe none of the wealthieſt, they will ſooneſt be pinched by this Deſign, and will complain loudeſt. It is true the foreign Artificers are many, and perhaps more dextrous in their Manufactures, and poſſibly as well as the Merchants more frugal in their Expences than ours are, or (it may be) are like to be; but all the Conſequence thereof, that is probable to enſue, is that they will beat the *Engliſh* out of Trade and Cuſtom, being able to underſel and underwork them, which will have this effect indeed, that the Manufacture of *England* will be advanced, becauſe delivered over to Aliens, but the Manufacture of the *Engliſh* impoveriſh'd, and they at length neceſſitated to become the Journey men and Servants, the Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water to Strangers that have beaten them out of their Trade, and eaten them out of their Country; and we muſt remember theſe Artificers are a numerous indigent querulous Company of People, and if oppreſſed by Aliens may be troubleſom, diſcontented, and unquiet. We ſee with how much difficulty they are reſtrained from diſorder upon ſmaller Occaſions, even in relation to thoſe few foreign Artificers that ſettle among us, what will

then become of things when every ſecond Houſe ſhall be inhabited? and Handy-crafts exerciſed by Foreigners in many Places? And this is the Wiſdom of Parliaments have wiſely foreſeen, and therefore have not only inhibited the importation of foreign Manufactures, but alſo tho they incouraged in ſome kind the foreign Merchant, yet have alwayes diſcountenanced, as much as might reaſonably be, the unlimited boundleſs acceſs of foreign Artificers, farther than might be neceſſary in ſome particular caſes, and places, and purpoſes, and members. To bring over a competent number to teach the Engliſh, but not a deluge to overflow and deſtroy the Engliſh Artificers, as will appear by the Acts of Parliament, and practice of other times.

7. As large as the Naturalization is propounded to be, ſo large muſt the Tolleration of the exerciſe of Religion be. If the Naturalization be univerſal to all people, as Jews, Turks, Moors, *Pagans*, as well as Chriſtians, of all ſorts of all Profeſſions and Perſwaſions, ſuch certainly muſt be the Extent of the Liberties for the exerciſe of their Religion. The Jews muſt have their Ceremonies, Circumciſions, Synagogues. Turks muſt have their *Mahomitan* Service, and ſo muſt the Moors, and alſo Socinians, Papiſts, Lutherans, and others. For ſince the foundation of the propoſal is the politick conſideration of the increaſe of Trade, and the ſuppoſition is that the more univerſal the Confluence of foreign Traders is, the greater will be the increaſe of Trade, and the more ample and extenſive the incouragement is, the greater will be the confluence. Of neceſſity, upon theſe ſuppoſitions, the unlimited Tolleration of all Religions will neceſſarily follow; for it will be ridiculous to think, that thoſe People (who are perchance more zealous in their falſe perſwaſions and Religions, than many of us *Engliſh* are of the true Religion) ſhould think themſelves much gratified with a civil priviledge in point of Trade, Commerce, Commorance, and participation of civil Immunities, and yet be fetter'd from the free Practice and Exerciſe of their Religion; unleſs we pleaſe our ſelves with that baſe Hope, that poſſibly by this means the ſenſe of Religion will become a matter of Indifferency, and ſtrike ſail to profit, or at leaſt with that uuwarranted hope, that true Religion will be more likely to rectifie thoſe falſe Religions, rather than to be corrupted by them.

And if as an Expedient it ſhall be propoſed that the Tolleration ſhall not be univerſal, but only of the Chriſtian Religion, (tho' there be much to he ſaid againſt the univerſality of ſuch a Tolleration)

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yet let ſuch propoſers conſider, Firſt. That they will not thereby anſwer the latitude and extent of their deſign, for the advantage of Trade to its full Extent; ſince a great part of the trading Men of the World, are Jews, Turks, and Infidels. Again, what *Criterium* ſhall be uſed that may be practicable for the diſcovery of ſuch, and diſcriminating them from others of the Chriſtian Profeſſion. They may come in and plant themſelves here in conſiderable Numbers, and keep their Religions cloſe to themſelves 'till their Number ſwell to ſuch a proportion, as may defend them in the open profeſſion and practiſe of that, which at firſt they more modeſtly and politickly concealed till their Numbers, and Wealth, and Intereſt, give them Safety and Impunity in a more free and open Profeſſion; ſo that by this means, in a little time, Men of all Nations will be mingled with our Parliaments, and Counſels, and publick Employments, to the hazard of the Ruin and Extirpation of the *Engliſh* Nation, Policy, and Government: and Men of all Religions will be mingled with our Parliaments, Councels, and publick Employments, to the hazard and deſtruction not only of the Proteſtants, but of the Chriſtian Religion it ſelf; or elſe to the corrupting it to a kind of mungril Religion, like that of the *Samaritans* after their Captivity, they feared the Lord, and ſerved their Idols.

8thly. This very pouring in of Forreigners into this Kingdom, will endanger the diſſolution, or at leaſt a conſiderable Alteration of the municipal Laws of the Kingdom, and this hath been the experience of this and all other Kingdoms, which have ſuffered conſiderable Inroads of other Nations, either with or againſt their Wills, the Inroads of the *Danes* and *Saxons* into this Kingdom ſoon brought either Diverſities or Alterations of Laws, and the Reaſons thereof are evident. conſiderable Numbers of Foregners tranſplanted into another Kingdom, bring along with them the Acquaintance and Knowledge and Love of their own Laws and Cuſtoms; which doth ordinarily occaſion, Firſt, Diverſities of Laws, for when they come in conſiderable Companies, they many times plant themſelves together, and there mantain a conſiderable Government and Law among themſelves, which in time prevails and proſpers into a Particular Law for that Society and

Tract wherein they plant themſelves; and ſo breaks the Unity of the Law, and in time of the Government of a Kingdom. Their Solemnities of Contracts, their Obligations and Rules of Commerce, their Rules of Succeſſions become different, which in proceſs of Time, rankles into the adjoyning Parts and Counties. 2*dly*, Diſſolution, and alteration, and inſtability in Laws, for in time theſe Foreigners having ſeated themſelves, and grown rich, and potent, will neceſſarily mingle with our Councils, yea, and with our Parliament, and ferment and aſſimilate our Laws to their own; and it will be, and alway hath been found, that diverſity of Laws, and too much lubricity, inſtability, and change of Laws are the cauſes of confuſion and inſtability in Government.

Now perchance againſt theſe dangers and inconveniences, eſpecially in relation to the corrupting of Religion and municipal Laws, theſe, or ſuch as theſe expedients or objections may be projected or imagined.

1*ſt*. That the true Religion is ſo reaſonable and effectual, that it may rather reform the falſe Religions than be corrupted by them.

2*dly*. That this Tolleration of other Religions here may induce the permiſſion, tolleration, and favour, of the true Religion in other Countries where it is interdicted, and thereby a greater advance of the True Religion may enſue in Foreign Countries, and more than recompence the detriment that true Religion may ſuffer by the entertainment of falſe Religions.

3*dly*. That there may be ſuch modifications of the indulgence to Foreigners, as may ſecure it againſt innovations either in Religion, Laws, or Government, as may be feared from an imprudent, unlimited, unqualified admiſſion, perchance the Oath of Allegiance and Supremacy might be a fitting Expedient, or an excluſion of them from Publick Offices, or diſtributing them into ſeveral quarters, might be a ſufficient corrective for this Fear.

I ANSWER.

I. To the first of these, it is true, that the true Protestant Religion hath a great advantage of evidence and worth above other Religions, and it hath by the Blessing of God, much prevailed in the World; but we must remember our Saviour's answer to the Devil's temptation of throwing himself down from the Pinacle of the Temple, *Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.* God Almighty hath given the Children of Men Reason and Prudence, and it is to be employed as well in Matters relating to Religion, as in civil Concerns. It were a wildness to expect that the corrupt Religions should not more probably infect our weak and corrupted Nature, rather than to think that a true Religion would not receive Corruption by the mixtures of Persons of corrupt Principles, we see at this time, Idolatry, Turcism, and Popery hath prevailed in six parts of seven at least, in the habitable World.

II. To the second, I answer, First, How do we know that other Princes will grant a reciprocal Indulgence unto the Protestant Religion? 2. If they will, that they will observe and keep it? It will take up a considerable time to be sure of both these, and till we are sure thereof, we are not in any tollerable condition to make or receive this Proposition. 3. But if we had sufficient assurance, they would make and keep such a reciprocal compact, yet the disadvantage will still be on our parts. We shall never have the advantage to invite the *English* into the Foreign Parts of *Europe* or *Asia*, as they will have to invite them hither; *England* is a fine spot of Ground, a rich and convenient Pasture, handsomely enclosed by Natural Enclosures, and by civil against the Incursion of Aliens; namely, the Sea and our Laws, and if this inclosure were to be thrown open, that our Neighbours should become intercommoners with us upon the supposed advantage of the liberty of ours with them, where one *Englishman* would transplant himself into *France*, a thousand Foreigners would transplant

plant themſelves hither, and ſtarve the *Engliſh* into a neceſſity of an unwilling tranſportation of our ſelves into our Neighbour common, and how long, or how well they would be entertained there, we might perchance hereafter know to our loſs; but be it never ſo well, we well know it would be to our loſs.

III. As to the third, I ſay, we have no neceſſity, thanks be to God, of trying this Experiment: were the Trade of *England* as well managed as it might be without this Experiment, we ſhould have no need of ſearching after ſuch projects to advance it, and therefore it is extream folly to make unneceſſary and hazardous Experiments, in hope to cure them by Expedients, which we are not ſure will be either effectual or ſufficient for it. If the Sea hath broken down the Banks, it becomes us to uſe the beſt means we can by new Ditches and Proviſions to ſtop its progreſs, and ſince we cannot wholly prevent the danger and avoid the loſs, yet to uſe the beſt and likelieſt means we may to render it as eaſie, and as remediable as may be. But it is a madneſs to break down the Banks, and let in the Deluge upon hopes of Expedients, to render it leſs inconvenient, and to run ſo great a danger upon proſpect of petty notional imaginations that might as well think to circumſcribe it. The Safety of States and Kingdoms is of too great a moment without inevitable neceſſity to practice experiments of ſuch a nature. And the Experiment it ſelf in propoſal, is of ſuch a kind, as is not eaſily governable; but will be too unruly for the magement and diſpoſal in point of practice, whatever Men may think in Notions and Speculations: And when all is done, as it may probably do very much harm, ſo it doth not appear to any conſiderate man (that is not fond of his own or others fancies or novelties) that it can bring any equivalent benefit.

Upon the whole matter it ſeems, that the Propoſal is to be rejected as dangerous and hurtful to the Kingdom, to Religion, and to the Intereſt of the *Engliſh* Nation, as utterly unevident to produce any conſiderable good to the Kingdom, any way proportionable to the damage and danger thereof; that this excellent boundary and rampire, that the Laws of this Kingdom

Kingdom have ſettled, and at all times have tenaciouſly obſerved againſt the Inundations of Foreigners, ought to be preſerved as the great Security of the Safety, Priviledge, and Intereſt of the Natives; and altho' *pro hic & nunc* upon emergent reaſons, and perſonal merit and aſſurance of ſome particular perſons, acts of Naturalization have been granted; tho' very ſparingly, and cautiouſly, and not by the ſholes (as hath been too much done of late Times) yet there is neither Wiſdom, Prudence, nor fidelity to the King or Kingdom, to go about to throw open this Encloſure, either by an univerſal Naturalization of all, or by any general or national Naturalization of any Foreign Countries or People.

F I N I S.